Attorney Docket No. 15162/03540

CAU 2872 #5 1/33/02 EV.S

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

∄n re

U.S. application of:

Jun ISHIHARA, Kohtaro HAYASHI, and

Yuichiro ORI

For:

LIGHT SEPARATION DEVICE, BLAZED

GRATING DEVICE, DIFFRACTION

GRATING DEVICE, AND ILLUMINATION

OPTICAL SYSTEM

U.S. Serial No.:

09/843,661

Filed:

April 26, 2001

Group Art Unit:

2872

Examiner:

To Be Assigned

Assistant Director for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Director for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

> November 16, 2001 Date of Deposit

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited

James W. Williams

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

Signature November 16, 2001

Date of Signature

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants wish to bring the following item to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of the document is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

Serial No. 09/843,661

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects its relative pertinence.

The reference cited below is not intended to constitute an admission of any kind. Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that the item listed below is properly citable against the above-identified application.

The following document is cited in the specification of the application:

(1) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. (A) 10-197827 (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD), published July 31, 1998.

Applicants consider the invention to be distinguishable over the above-cited document.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before issuance of the first office action, no fee is incurred. However, if it should be determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood's Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Serial No. 09/843,661

Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,

James W. Williams

Registration No. 20,047 Attorney for Applicants

JWW:pm

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November 16, 2001